

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 811

By Hood

A RESOLUTION to honor Pastor F. Murray Mathis on the  
occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body recognize those who in  
their years of work have performed with extraordinary dedication and unprecedented devotion;  
and

WHEREAS, Pastor F. Murray Mathis is one such outstanding person who has served  
with alacrity and acuity for 19 years with the Third Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Mathis exemplifies the spirit and dedication that is characteristic of a  
great Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, upon his arrival there were less than 100 students in the Sunday School;  
now there are between 550 and 600; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Mathis' history in the ministry spans 38 years, 22 of which have been  
in Murfreesboro; and

WHEREAS, he served as a student pastor in seminary and in college, and pastored at  
Powell's Chapel in Walter Hill from 1970-1972; seven years later he became pastor at the Third  
Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, a native of Fayetteville, Pastor Mathis received his call to the ministry at the  
age of 19 and as a result, left his father's business to enroll at Belmont University in Nashville;  
and

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WHEREAS, he was first licensed to preach by the Park City Baptist Church and ordained as a minister by the Glendale Baptist Church in Nashville; and

WHEREAS, under his leadership the church has built a worship center which seats 1,000 people and includes a sizable church staff; and

WHEREAS, one of the many highlights of Mathis's pastorate was the adoption of a full-time minister with the Japanese Mission, developed after the building of Nissan to serve the Japanese community in Rutherford County; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Mathis's adroit qualities include the uncommon ability to motivate others to fully realize their potential, perhaps the most valuable of all skills; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we extend to Pastor F. Murray Mathis our best wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement, and continued success in future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.